

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/954,951

Examiner

Robert Stevens

Applicant(s)

HIND ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview conducted 10/24/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-15, 17-25 and 27-31 (renumbered as 1-28).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20071024.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Office has withdrawn all rejections raised in the Final Rejection mailed 8/3/2007.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rohan G. Sabapathypillai, Reg. No. 51,074, on 10/22/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

3. Cancel claims 2, 16, 26 and 32-53.
4. Amend claims 1, 3-4, 10-12, 15, 24-25, 27 and 29 as follows:
 1. (Currently Amended) A method of incrementally rendering content in a content framework, comprising:
 - receiving a request for a portal page, wherein one or more portlets provide content for the portal page;
 - immediately returning a response message containing a first document and a refresh trigger responsive to receiving the request, wherein the first document represents results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent results of all portlets; [[and]]

programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first document and the refresh trigger, wherein the updated document further represents results from one or more portlets which had not acquired their content when the first document was returned;

receiving a subsequent request for the portal page, the subsequent request having been automatically sent responsive to receiving the refresh trigger; and
returning a subsequent response comprising the updated document responsive to receiving the subsequent request, the updated document being a subsequent version of the first document and representing results from portlets which have acquired their content thus far and which omits the refresh trigger only if all portlets have now acquired their content.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, wherein the refresh trigger is a refresh header of the response message.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, wherein the refresh trigger is encoded using syntax of a markup language.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, wherein a value on the refresh trigger specifies a time before which the programmatically generated mechanism does not execute.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, wherein a value on the refresh trigger is computed as a time after which a sender of the portal page request automatically invokes the delivery of the updated document.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, wherein a value on the refresh trigger is computed as a latest predicted completion time of a final one of the portlets which have not yet acquired their content.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[2]] 1, further comprising:
receiving the response message by a client from which the request for the portal page was sent;
rendering, by the client, the first document from the received response message;
and
automatically sending a subsequent request for the portal page after waiting for a time specified by a value of the refresh trigger.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of incrementally rendering content in a content framework, comprising:
receiving a request for a portal page, wherein one or more portlets provide content for the portal page;
immediately returning a response message containing a first document and a refresh trigger responsive to receiving the request, wherein the first document represents

results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent results of all portlets; and

automatically delivering an updated document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first document and the refresh trigger, wherein the updated document further represents results from one or more portlets which had not acquired their content when the first document was returned, and wherein automatically delivering the updated document comprises:

receiving a subsequent request for the portal page, the subsequent request having been automatically sent responsive to receiving the refresh trigger; and

returning a subsequent response comprising the updated document responsive to receiving the subsequent request, the updated document being a subsequent version of the first document and representing results from portlets which have acquired their content thus far and which omits the refresh trigger only if all portlets have now acquired their content.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of incrementally rendering content in a content framework, comprising:

receiving a request for a portal page frame, wherein one or more portlets provide content for the portal page frame;

immediately returning a response message containing a first mini-document and a refresh header responsive to receiving the request, wherein the first mini-document represents results from portlets which have acquired their content but does not represent results of all portlets; and

programmatically generating a mechanism for delivering an updated mini-document responsive to immediately returning the response message containing the first mini-document and the refresh header, wherein the updated mini-document further represents results from one or more portlets which had not acquired their content when the first mini-document was returned;

receiving a subsequent request for the portal page frame, the subsequent request having been automatically sent responsive to receiving the refresh header; and returning a subsequent response comprising the updated mini-document responsive to receiving the subsequent request, the updated mini-document being a subsequent version of the first mini-document and representing results from portlets which have acquired their content thus far and which omits the refresh header only if all portlets have now acquired their content.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 25, wherein the programmatically generated mechanism comprises inclusion of [[an]] a syntax element in the response header message, wherein the syntax element is encoded using a markup language.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[26]] 25, wherein a value on the refresh header is computed as a time after which a sender of the portal page frame request automatically invokes the delivery of the updated mini-document.

5. After a thorough search, and in light of the prior art of record, claims 1, 3-15, 17-25 and 27-31 (renumbered as 1-28) are allowed.

Reasons For Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to methods for incrementally rendering a portal page comprised of portlets by immediately returning results from portlets that have acquired their content, and subsequently delivering content from other portlets using a refresh mechanism.

The closest prior art, Hütsch et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0034771), is directed to a network portal system for gathering and inserting all portlet information into a page object for display on a user device. The further cited reference, Alan Richmond ("HTML's META-tag: HTTP-EQUIV", Web Developer's <Virtual Library>, Oct. 12, 1999, pp. 1-3), is directed to an article on HTML programming techniques using an <HTTP-EQUIV> tag for refreshing/redirecting web pages. The additionally cited reference, is directed to Polizzi et al. (US Patent No. 6,832,263), is directed to the updating of a portal object. And, the additionally cited reference, Craig E. Wills et al. ("Studying the Impact of More Complete Server Information on Web Caching", Computer Communications, Vol. 24, Issue 2, Feb. 2001, pp. 184-190), is directed to the caching of Web objects.

These references do not disclose a mechanism for incrementally updating portlets of a portal page, particularly the immediate returning of available portlet content and a refresh trigger for causing subsequent updates of available portlet content.

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7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Stevens whose telephone number is (571) 272-4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 - 2:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Robert Stevens
Examiner
Art Unit 2162

October 25, 2007



SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER